

ORNITHOLOGY.—*A new finch from northern Perú.* JOHN T. ZIMMER, American Museum of Natural History. (Communicated by Herbert Friedmann.)

A small consignment of Peruvian birds, recently submitted by Javier Ortiz de la Puente, of the Museo de Historia Natural 'Javier Prado' of Lima, Perú, contained, among other interesting specimens, a fine new finch belonging to the genus *Incaospiza*. Señor Ortiz de la Puente has kindly given me permission to describe this new bird and, in addition, has generously given the type to the American Museum of Natural History, for which I am grateful.

I am also indebted to Rodolphe M. de Schauensee, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, for the loan of a specimen of one of the allied species of *Incaospiza*, not contained in the American Museum series, and one additional young individual of uncertain affinity. Both examples were examined some years ago but were studied again in comparison with the new form.

The new bird may be known as follows. Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's *Color standards and color nomenclature*.

Incaospiza ortizi, n. sp.

Type.—From near La Esperanza, Dept. Cajamarca, Perú; altitude 1,800 meters. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. no. 748395. Adult female collected April 24, 1951, by Javier Ortiz de la Puente.

Diagnosis.—Somewhat similar to *I. pulchra* of central-western Perú (Departments Ancash to Lima at approximately the same elevations) but differing in various respects. Upper parts darker and duller, more streaked and without any bright rufescence; gray of breast lighter and clearer, being broadly extended down the flanks; belly white, without buff; facial pattern different, having broader black on the front and a more restricted black gular patch, which, however, is broadly connected with the lores; no gray superciliary stripe over the lores and only a weak suggestion of one between the black orbital ring and the crown; feet paler yellowish. The facial pattern rather noticeably resembles that of *I. personata* (of even higher elevations in the Cajamarca region), giving the only obvious feature of resemblance to that species.

Range.—At present known definitely only from

the type locality, on the western side of the Andes of northern Perú. Possibly crossing the Andes to the eastern slope of the Western Cordillera.

Description of type.—Crown Deep Mouse Gray with poorly defined darker shaft streaks; back of head a little lighter; mantle Hair Brown \times Mouse Gray with rather broad, sooty shaft streaks, not sharply defined; forehead broadly black with the shading extending over the lores, narrowly around the orbit, broadly over the malar apex, and moderately broadly over the chin; rest of sides of the head Neutral Gray \times Light Neutral Gray, merging with the Pale Neutral Gray of the throat; breast a little lighter, with traces of whitish shaft lines; flanks broadly Pale Neutral Gray; belly white; under tail coverts whitish, faintly tinged with light buff. Remiges near Hair Brown; primaries with exterior margins finely Drab-Gray; secondaries with this outer margin broader and less well defined; tertials with a brown submarginal area passing into a gray margin; upper primary coverts dusky with dull grayish margins; greater coverts like the secondaries; median and lesser series gray with lighter margins; under primary coverts dull grayish; remainder of under coverts whitish; inner margins of remiges soiled whitish. Median three pairs of rectrices blackish with prominent gray margins tending to broaden at the tips (worn plumes faded to brown); fourth pair blackish, with a large white patch on the terminal part of the inner web, adjoining the shaft but withdrawn from the inner margin except for a short distance terminally; subexternal pair similarly marked but the white patch reaching well over half the distance basad along the shaft and a third of the distance on the inner margin; outermost pair with the white even more extensive, involving most of both webs except for a dusky diagonal patch at the base and a narrow streak on the outer web near the tip. Bill (in dried skin) Capucine Yellow \times Deep Chrome; feet Maize Yellow. Wing, 73 mm; tail, 67; exposed culmen, 14.5; culmen from base, 18; tarsus, 26.5.

Remarks.—A young male from Hacienda Limón, Perú, kindly lent by Mr. de Schauensee, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, may be an immature example of the present species, but it is impossible to be certain without adults from the same locality. I have no comparable plumages of *pulehra* or *personata*, but the

characters of this young bird approximate those of adult *ortizi* more than those of either of the other forms. The bill is of much the same conformation; the upper parts are strongly streaked, and the pattern of the tail is very similar. The under parts are dull with prominent pectoral streaks, and there is no facial black although the lores and malar apex (but not the forehead or chin) are somewhat dusky. There is, however, a rather broad superciliary stripe over the orbit and the lores to the base of the bill which may indicate relationship to *pulchra* more than to *ortizi*. For the present I prefer to leave this bird with a query.

The possibility exists that *ortizi* and *pulchra* are conspecific or even, as maintained by Hellmayr, that *pulchra* and *personata* bear that close relationship, but I believe the situation is not sufficiently clear to establish such arrangement without question. The various members of the genus *incaspiza*, including several species that are rather obviously no more than generically related to these three forms, all exhibit notable

similarities in pattern of coloration, and the possession of one or more resemblances of this sort in common is not an adequate criterion of conspecific affinity.

I have been handicapped to a certain extent by lacking a female of *pulchra* or a male of *ortizi*. Throughout the genus *Incaspiza*, however, the sexes show no striking distinctions. Furthermore, both sexes of *pulchra* were studied by Hellmayr, who reported no differences except of size; a female was slightly smaller than two males. Consequently I am confident that the characters of *ortizi* can not be attributed to any sexual differentiation.

I take great pleasure in naming this fine bird for its discoverer.

Specimens examined.—As follows:

I. ortizi.—PERÚ: La Esperanza, 1 ♀ (type).

I. pulchra.—PERÚ: Yuramarca, Dept. Ancash, 1 ♂.¹

I. personata.—PERÚ: Cajabamba, 2 ♂; near Cajamarca, 2 ♂, 4 ♀; Succha, 1 ♀.

I. species?.—PERÚ: Hacienda Limón, 1 ♂ juv.¹

¹ Specimens in Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia.

Obituary

MERRILL BERNARD was born at Burlington, Iowa, on July 25, 1892. He died in his home in Washington, D. C., on April 13, 1951. He is survived by his wife Claudia Bernard.

Bernard completed his education at the North Carolina Military Academy (Preparatory), Military College of South Carolina, and A. and M. College of Oklahoma, after which he practiced municipal, irrigation, and railroad engineering in Louisiana and Texas. After military service as first lieutenant during the First World War (1917-18) he engaged in consulting engineering practice in Louisiana, Texas, and Central America, including hydrologic consultant for the Mississippi Valley Committee in 1934-1936, and brief associations with the U. S. Geological Survey and the Soil Conservation Service. He became chief, River and Flood Division, U. S. Weather Bureau in 1937, advancing to hydrologic director, 1939, and finally chief, Climatological and Hydrologic Services, in 1946, the position he held at the time of his death. Among the special assignments he accomplished were those of member, American Meteorological Mission to USSR (1945), and meteorological attaché to embassy, Moscow (1946).

His many contributions in the fields of hydrology and meteorology are notably important for their success in clarifying the relationship between these two sciences. His paper *Primary role of meteorology in flood flow estimating* won for him the Norman Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1945.

In addition to his association with this Acad-

emy, Merrill Bernard was affiliated with the International Association of Hydrology, IUGG, of which he was president; International Meteorological Organization, in which he served as president of their joint subcommittee on machine methods, and vice president of their technical commission on hydrology; American Meteorological Society; American Geophysical Union; and American Society of Civil Engineers.

His widely recognized abilities and professional prestige, combined in action with his personal likability and unvarying loyalty to the Service, gained for the Weather Bureau a great many advantages in its work with such other agencies as the Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U. S. Geological Survey, with whose cooperation, under his active guidance, many major projects of public benefit and value have been developed and are now in continuing operation. Outstanding examples of these are the objectives and output of the hydrometeorological and the cooperative studies sections of the Climatological and Hydrologic Services Division in Washington for which his vision and ingenuity are very largely to be thanked, and which have become indispensable as aids in relating the facts and potentials of storm behavior to the design and location of flood-control and water-conservation construction throughout the country. Less well-defined but of comparable character and value was the success of his effort to extend the flood-forecasting function of the Weather Bureau to upstream and headwater areas.—W. F. F.